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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/866,980	05/29/2001	Yoichi Morimoto	101188-10	7394

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EXAMINER

GOLD, AVI M

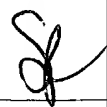
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/866,980	Applicant(s) MORIMOTO ET AL. 	
	Examiner Avi Gold	Art Unit 2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This action is responsive to the application filed May 29, 2001. Claims 1-15 are pending. Claims 1-15 represent network service providing system.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Devine et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,763,376.

Devine teaches the invention as claimed including an integrated customer interface system for communications network management (see abstract).

Regarding claim 1, Devine teaches a service providing system comprising a network, at least one client being connected to said network, a system at service provider side for providing services to said client via said network, wherein said system at service provider side comprises a service server being connected to said network and at least one application server for providing

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services; and wherein a request by the client is delivered via said service server and services provided by the application server are returned to the client via the service server (col. 7, lines 1-5, Devine discloses a request from client to server that goes through a common communications service; col. 10, lines 8-16, Devine discloses traffic between client and application servers).

Regarding claim 2, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 1, wherein said service server manages addresses of said application servers individually; wherein when said client sends a request for obtaining a service from the application servers designating an address of one of the application servers on said network, said service server makes up a correspondence between the request and the relevant application server, and then said service server obtains the service from the relevant application server and sends it to the client (col. 17, lines 11-17, Devine discloses requests from clients forwarded to the appropriate server in the applications servers).

Regarding claim 3, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 1, wherein said application servers and said service server are connected together via ISDN where only designations from dedicated lines or from particular numbers are recognized (col. 9, lines 40-44, Devine discloses the use of ISDN to connect between servers).

Regarding claim 4, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 1, wherein said service server has at least one function to support the work conducted in said application servers (col. 17, lines 11-17, Devine disclose a StarOE server checking requests to be forwarded to application servers).

Regarding claim 5, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 1, wherein said network is Internet, Intranet, WAN or LAN (col. 9, lines 40-50, Devine discloses that the network is LAN).

Regarding claim 6, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 1, wherein one or more of said application servers constitute a client (col. 17, lines 11-17).

Regarding claim 7, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 6, wherein said network is WAN or LAN (col. 9, lines 40-50).

Regarding claim 8, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 5, wherein said function for supporting the work conducted in said application servers includes at least one selected from the group consisting of an illegal access preventing function, a virus checking function, a data cleaning function, a data converting function, a data storing function, a data value added distributing function, and a data backup function (col. 7, lines 6-16, Devine discloses the use of a firewall).

Regarding claim 9, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 6, wherein said function for supporting the work conducted in said application servers includes at least one selected from the group consisting of an illegal access preventing function, a virus checking function, a data cleaning function, a data converting function, a data storing function, a data value added distributing function, a data backup function, a data exchange history storing function between said application servers, a data protocol conversion function, and a dataware house analyzing result distributing function (col. 7, lines 6-16).

Regarding claim 10, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of service servers are provided and at least one of them backs-up the others (col. 9, lines 15-20, Devine discloses the use of midrange servers).

Regarding claim 11, Devine teaches a service providing system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of service sewers are provided so that a load of the system is distributed to the plurality of service servers (col. 17, lines 1-5, Devine discloses a TrafficView Server, an Inbox server, and a Network Manager server).

Claims 12-15 do not teach or define any new limitations above claims 1-11 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,754,831 to Brownell.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,662,228 to Limsico.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,505,254 to Johnson et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,219,706 to Fan et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,958,016 to Chang et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,701,363 to Chiu et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Avi Gold whose telephone number is 703-305-8762. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:30 (1st Friday Off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 703-308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Avi Gold

Patent Examiner

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AMG


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